

## Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 BAGHDA 00586 051721Z

44

ACTION NEA-12

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 EUR-25 ISO-00 NEAE-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00

PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-04 RSC-01

PRS-01 SPC-03 SS-20 USIA-15 ACDA-19 IO-14 SAJ-01

NIC-01 EB-11 COME-00 INT-08 SCEM-02 OMB-01 SCI-06

TRSE-00 MC-02 DRC-01 /191 W  
----- 036250

P R 310800Z OCT 73

FM USINT BAGHDAD

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 614

INFO USINT ALGIERS

AMEMBASSY AMMAN

AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

USINT CAIRO

AMEMBASSY JIDDA

AMEMBASSY KUWAIT

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

C O N F I D E N T I A L BAGHDAD 586

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR IZUR

REF: BAGHDAD 584

SUBJECT: ROLE OF USSR IN POST WAR IRAQ

1. SUMMARY: DESPITE CRITICISM, SOVIETS HAVE EMERGED  
FROM WAR IN STRONG POSITION TO EXPLOIT ANTI-AMERICAN  
FEELING AND IRAQS NEED FOR MILITARY REFURBISHMENT AND  
SUPPORT IN RESOLVING DOMESTIC PROBLEMS. END SUMMARY

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 BAGHDA 00586 051721Z

2. IRAQI GENERAL TOLD INDIAN MILATT THAT ADVERSE OUTCOME

OF WAR WAS CAUSED BY FAILURE OF USSR TO MATCH US RESUPPLY EFFORT AND SOVIET UNWILLINGNESS TO PROVIDE SOPHISTICATED OFFENSIVE WEAPONS. SOVIETS ALSO CRITICIZED FOR CEASE FIRE. COMMUNIST PAPER CLAIMED OCT 30 THAT RUSSIA ACCEPTED CEASE FIRE ONLY BECAUSE EGYPT AND SYRIA HAD ASKED FOR IT. DESPITE DISGRUNTLEMENT, IRAQ APPEARS HAVE LITTLE CHOICE IN FORSEEABLE FUTURE BUT TO RELY ON SOVIETS FOR MILITARY REFURBISHMENTS AND POLITICAL SUPPORT IN FACING ITS INTERNAL PROBLEMS, PARTICULARLY KURDISH CONFLICT. SOVIETS EXPECTED TO MOVE RAPIDLY TO EXPLOIT NEW SITUATION.

3. DURING MONTHS PRECEEDING WAR USSR SEEMED TO BE GIVING SPECIAL PRIORITY TO IRAQ BY DELIVERING SOPHISTICATED MILITARY EQUIPMENT, INCLUDING T-62 TANKS, 21 T-22 BOMBERS, AND UNDERTERMINED NUMBER OF SU-20'S. SOVIETS ALSO OVERLOOKED IRAQI INSULTS SUCH AS CLOSING CULTURAL CENTER, WITHDRAWAL IRAQI STUDENTS FROM MOSCOW AND POINTEO PUBLIC REMARKS BY RCC VICE CHAIRMAN SADDAM HUSSEIN.

4. IN ADDITION TO INTEREST IN GULF AND OIL GENERALLY, REASONS BEHIND SOVIET ACTIONS PROBABLY INCLUDED RAPIDLY EXPANDING WESTERN ECONOMIC PRESENCE SINCE IPC SETTLEMENT, FORMATION OF NATIONAL FRONT LEGALIZING ICP AND IRAQI DEMANDS FOR OFFENSIVE WEAPONS.

5. DESPITE STRONG SOVIET POSITION, IRAQ IS NOT DEFENSELESS. WHILE OIL EXPORTS DOWN AT LEAST ONE/THIRD AS RESULT CLOSURE BANIAS, PRICE INCREASE APPEARS GUARANTEE CONTINUED STRONG EXPORT EARNINGS. IN ADDITION EUROPEANS ARE WORKING HARD TO MAINTAIN TIES. IN CASE OF FRANCE, THIS COULD LEAD TO SUPPLY OF MILITARY HARDWARE. IN THIS SITUATION, MOVEMENT TOWARD PEACE SETTLEMENT AND ABILITY OF EUROPEANS AND JAPAN TO PURSUE POLICY COMPATIBLE WITH IRAQI INTERESTS OFFER BEST HOPE OF BLUNTING SOVIET OPPORTUNITIES.

LOWRIE

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** PETROLEUM, ADVANCED WEAPONS, MILITARY AIRLIFTS, FOREIGN POLICY POSITION  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 31 OCT 1973  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** golinofr  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1973BAGHDA00586  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** GS  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Film Number:** n/a  
**From:** BAGHDAD  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Image Path:**  
**ISecure:** 1  
**Legacy Key:** link1973/newtext/t1973103/aaaaacbt.tel  
**Line Count:** 96  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE  
**Office:** ACTION NEA  
**Original Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 2  
**Previous Channel Indicators:**  
**Previous Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** BAGHDAD 584  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** golinofr  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 26 DEC 2001  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review History:** RELEASED <26-Dec-2001 by martinml>; APPROVED <03-Jan-2002 by golinofr>  
**Review Markings:**

Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
30 JUN 2005

**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Referrals:** n/a  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** SOVIET POSITION IN ME  
**TAGS:** PFOR, IR, UR  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005